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# ST. JOHNS REVIEW

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NO. 4

## THE CITY ROCK CRUSHER

### An Interesting Sight to See This Machine Eat Up Dornicks at Whitwood Court

To one who has the time and inclination, an hour spent watching the city's big sawmill cut up the foundations of the everlasting hills at Whitwood Court will prove not the least interesting one in his existence. We had not been to visit the crusher since its installation until Friday. It worked well at the beginning, but there was not enough material on hand at that time to demonstrate what the mill could do. Now they have a face open on the hillside about 25 or 30 feet in extent and have a dozen men at work but are still unable to keep the crusher going. When they have opened up a face a hundred or more feet long, the same number of men will be able to get out two or three times as much rock in the same time and will perhaps be able to keep the monster jaws of the crusher from getting empty.

The whole process is an interesting one, from start to finish. Up at the face of the rock the dynamites put in a blast and knock the rock down in big chunks, where the others with sledges reduce the sizes so the mill can get a bite on them. It is then wheeled to the crusher and another man stands there and keeps the solid food continually dropping into the cavernous mouth of the hungry machine. Sometimes the pieces of stone are so large it will not enter the jaws and in that case the feeder takes a sledge and drives it in, breaking off little pieces until it will enter; and it does not matter how large the stone nor how hard it may be after it once enters those powerful jaws, it is all off with it, for they keep cracking it at every revolution of the driving wheel until it has all broken up and passed through into the elevator, and it does it easily.

The dynamiting crew sometimes is obliged to put in what they call pop-shots in extra big chunks when the sledges fail to break them up small enough for the mill. As it leaves the mill all sizes of the crushed rock go together but the elevator carries it up and empties it into a revolving cylinder which is perforated with holes of certain sizes so as to separate the rock into three different sizes. The "screenings" drop out in the first bin from the machine and are used to finish off the top surface of the street. The second bin takes the next grade which averages about 1 1/4 inches in size. The last bin takes everything that is left and the largest pieces will not exceed about three inches.

The crusher is situated about 100 feet up the canyon from the place of loading. They have built two cars with a capacity of two tons each which are connected with each other by a cable which passes over a drum or windlass. These run on an iron track from the bins to the place of loading down a steep grade. The weight of the loaded car brings the empty one back from the loading place to the bins, and just half way between the two points is located a switch which is operated from the bins by means of a wire, so that the one in charge of the cars has them under full control at all times.

There were five teams hauling Friday and they were not able to keep nearly up with the machine and they have the shortest haul there will be in the city. The coarsest bin was almost full and the screenings bin was three-quarters full, while the middle bin was about one-third full, and the teams were all hauling out of it. When the quarriesmen have the quarry fully opened so that the mill can be supplied to its capacity and the haul extended to the top of the hill it will take fifteen or twenty teams to keep the crushed rock away from the bins.

The city has in the rock crusher, it properly managed after the quarry is fully opened up a moneymaker. For it does its work rapidly, easily and thoroughly, and it will be able to make crushed rock faster than it will be possible for the city to use. We believe that it would be to the city's interest to make arrangements to furnish rock to outside parties at a price that would make a fair profit to the city. There is no doubt but that every ton the city could produce could be thus disposed of and the machine might thus be made, in time, to pay for itself aside from the use of the city proper.

The work of spreading the rock on the streets is going along slowly. There is too much mud on a part of the streets, Pittsburg, for instance. They had to plank the street from the ferry slip up to the railroad

track. Then instead of going up to Crawford street they go up the railroad track on Bradford to Salem. It seems that one or two of the parties on Pittsburg east of the track will not sign the waiver which will permit the city to go on with the improvement on that street. We have been told, too, that they have abundance of means but are on the hog, wishing to force the city to improve the street at its own expense while the property owners reap the benefit. We do not know who the parties are, but we do not know whether or not we have been correctly informed, but we do know that it is not the intention of the city to make such an improvement and that if the present plan to improve this part of the street is blocked by this action the improvement will not be made and the parties owning the property will be losers thereby, for the improvement adds to the value of the property many times the cost of the improvement. It is humiliating to think that there are property owners of St. Johns who care so little for the city that they will deliberately stand in the way of such needed improvement as this simply from selfishness, penuriousness or "don't-give-a-damn-ness" as to the city's advancement. They are a good class of citizens all right—to keep out.

This little strip of street one block long which is so badly needed, if it were improved would give a solid street from the ferry to the top of the hill over which the crushed rock from the ferry might be hauled easily at any time of the year, thus making it possible to improve any street in the city at any time. It is a disgrace to the city that one property holder or two, with the instincts of a cave dweller, should be able to block the advancement and improvement of the city in this way. We hope they may yet see the folly of their position and come into line with their progressive neighbors.

### Lost a Finger

Fritz Couch, Barney Noonan and Mat Niederman boarded a gasoline launch and started for Vancouver for a Thanksgiving ride Thursday of last week. All went as merry as a marriage bell until they were at the light house near the mouth of the river, where Niederman in some way got the middle finger of his left hand caught in the gearing of the gasoline motor and crushed it so badly as to necessitate amputation.

The boys hustled to Vancouver as quickly as possible and the wounded man was taken to a surgeon who amputated the member being obliged to saw the bone twice before making a successful operation. Mr. Niederman stood all the punishment the sawbones saw fit to inflict without the palliating effect of an anesthetic, which speaks pretty highly for his grit; for it is certainly no agreeable sensation to have a butcher grinding away on one's bones with an old, dull saw.

What hurt the boys' feelings the most, however, was that in attending to this matter they were so long that they missed their Thanksgiving dinner.

### A Happy Surprise

A very happy surprise was sprung upon the family of P. T. Hansen Friday evening of last week, by the arrival of Mrs. Hansen's oldest brother, F. W. Johnson of Minnesota. Mrs. Hansen had not seen her brother for over 24 years, and it was a glad reunion all around. The Hansons hope that his stay will be a long one. Mrs. M. V. Walker, Mr. Hanson's daughter is still a resident of this city and the prospects are good for her to remain here permanently. It is expected that the work of the head office of the Kavanagh company will be brought from Seattle to Portland and that she will have her work so changed that she will be able to remain here permanently.

The delightful climate of Oregon will do more to bring and keep the people here from the frozen north and east than anything else and St. Johns is especially favored in this respect and the best place of all in the great state for a home.

Mr. Lutz, one of our foremost carpenters has the lumber on the ground for a fine new residence.

## DOINGS OF THE CITY COUNCIL

### The City Dads Convene and Transact Their Usual Budget of Municipal Business in a Satisfactory Manner

The common council of the city of St. Johns met in regular session Tuesday evening, all present as well as some 20 of the citizens interested in some of the measures which were up during the evening.

Petition of Leonard Leader for the establishment of the grade on New York street was granted. Mr. Leader owns the property occupied by Prof. Boyd near the McChesney block.

Petition for arc light on Oswego and Fossenden street was accepted and placed on file. No more arc lights can be placed by the city until new appropriation is made for them, as the fund set aside for that purpose at the beginning of 'he year is all used up.

First National bank called attention to disposition of funds of the city. Offers 3 per cent interest and satisfactory bonds. Matter was referred to the city treasurer. The mayor expressed doubt of the right of the city to accept interest.

Portland Street Railway Light & Power company presented bid of \$45 for installing two police signal lights. Work was ordered done.

The following bills were allowed

Burt Hayner.....	2.00
J. F. Poff.....	4.13
J. P. Weatherall.....	3.25
L. Clinge.....	2.50
George W. Warner.....	21.00
Isaac Baker.....	10.00
Claude Poff.....	6.00
R. Bell.....	12.00
Louis McInnis.....	18.00
A. C. Smith.....	10.00
A. R. Burlew.....	11.75
L. Foster.....	12.00
Hugh Thompson.....	12.00
Fred Bullock.....	8.00
E. A. Halsey.....	10.00
E. B. Goode.....	10.50
J. H. Poff.....	7.00
Jos. Stevens.....	.75
D. J. Horsman.....	17.50
C. S. Thompson.....	1.00
St. Johns Review.....	40.25
Hendricks Hdwr Co.....	6.75
Portland Gen Elec Co.....	159.00
Total.....	\$384.89

City engineer submitted two different plans for the extension of Richmond street through the Caples tract. On motion of Hunter the

mayor appointed a committee consisting of Hunter, Johnson and Bonham to meet with Mrs. Caples in Collier's office to confer in regard to the opening and extension of Richmond street through her property.

Councilman Windle was instructed to see the county officials in reference to making a 12-foot curb on South Hayes and a walk on Willamette boulevard.

On motion of Hunter the minutes in reference to the resolution in regard to the ferry be made read \$17,000 instead of \$17,000 and \$3000.

Pittsburg waiver not all signed up but effort will be made this week to secure balance of signatures.

Engineer was instructed to present plans, profile and estimate for the improvement of Philadelphia street from Hayes street to the city dock as soon as possible.

In the matter of the liquor license on motion of Johnson the ordinance re-palling Ordinance No. 183 was passed to the third reading. Davis, Johnson, Hunter, Windle and Dobie voting yes and Miller and Bonham voting no. It was then put upon its final passage and received same vote.

That worthy gentleman bounced her off into the center of the room and arose repeating his bit of family history to the amazed girl. Then the health officer came in and about the time Uncle Epp was ready to wallop him for intimating that there was a contagious disease in the house, a clock struck six. Then there was joking and explanations and Jessie's best fellow came back and cousin Lucy's, and Tom grabbed Mame, and they talked wedding until Pere Middleton was bewildered. They had claimed the \$75 each and it had been paid and as the wedding affair was about settled in came May, the cook with Freddy, her lover, and they asked permission to go and get married and they all lived happily ever afterwards.

The prettiest piece of acting of the evening followed when little M. Marcy and G. Bilyeu sang "Smarty". The audience just kept up their encore until the little ones came back and sang, "Mamma's little copper colored coon". Miss Louise Couch rendered S1 and I in a most perfect manner. It was very comical and Louise never made a balk during the entire recital of her trip with S1 and she "never had such a time in my life" all the way through. The eclipse of the sun by himself, a tableau was all right. The son sat on a table "by himself" with a black mask or box that completely eclipsed his countenance while the curtain arose and fell with red fire.

The closing performance was certainly original with the ladies, for it was a new branch of the knights called "The Female Knights". No description would do the subject justice. We wish the ladies could be induced to give the entertainment again a week hence in a larger hall. We believe they would have double the number they had Wednesday evening, and the hall was filled, every seat being taken and a large number stood through the entire performance.

There is no use trying to tell about this new lodge. Sister Angelcake was the hit tyhee and she was assisted by Sister Gossip and Sister Busybudy. The play opened by the curtain disclosing Sister Gossip, Sister Lonesome and Sister Busybudy in the center of the stage, just giving Sister Blueblood hall columbia. They all despised her and the last word hardly escaped from the room when the dear sister appeared in all her glory and the three raced to grasp her hand and declared how glad they were to see her. Then she and the others began to tear Sister Angelcake to pieces until that lady appeared, when they all crowded around her so that she could hardly reach the chair. With her croquet mallet for a gavel she called the lodge to order, and after the proper examination of the members, each of whom gave different pass words and a variety of grips, signs, etc., that would indicate they belonged to at least a dozen different orders, they retired to robe for the occasion. Words have not yet been built that would do justice to the gorgeous robes of the sisters.

Soon as they were seated properly it was announced there were two victims in waiting to ride the goat. Mrs. Padlock and Mrs. Ipeac, the candidates were ushered into the august presence of the lodge and seated.

mounting him upon a ladder he was to be working when her lord and master came in. She then hurried to the door and admitted him. The iceman was in something of a hurry, having waited so long, and ran into the room with the question "Ice today?" and as he uttered the words ran against the ladder knocking it over and spilling the festive agent to the floor, a drop of six or eight feet. Dr. Vincent says there were no bones broken but he was jarred up good and strong.

Then followed the comical farce "A Perplexing Situation," where Pere Middleton roasted his wife and daughters and his niece for talking so much, and offered them \$50 each if they could exist from lunch to 6 o'clock without speaking; as they demurred some and asked a few questions seeking some loop hole so that they might say just a little word now and then, or one of them talk at a time, all of which was denied the price was raised to \$75 each and taken by the four ladies. The girls immediately put a job up on their mother, locked her in her room so that she could not speak to them, and they kept away from all their neighbors to the utmost of their ability. They were permitted to communicate by signs and it would have made the worst old hypocondriacal pessimist in St. Johns laugh to see the ludicrous motions the girls went through discussing the latest fashions. Then the real trouble began. Jessie's best fellow came in just because he was going away suddenly for a month and the parting was such a shock that he was jarred into making a proposal, but Jessie could not talk and he popped the question in such a way that the bewildered girl did not know which way to answer so she shook her head and her lover misunderstood her to mean that she rejected him, which he said for her, and she tried to remedy her mistake by nodding her head to mean that she accepted him which he took for a confirmation of her rejection and he said goodbye forever and Jessie sat down and cried. Her sister and cousin came in and sympathized with her, then the cook and as the cook came in she fainted. The cook screamed fire, police, while the other girls picked her up and carried her out. The fire department turned out with a sprinkler, but there was no fire.

Then Uncle Epp from away up the "kentry", McMinnville, came into town after an absence of 39 years to see John Henry and he was shocked to see all his gals were dumb, and they were such "purty" gals too. Uncle was tired and wished to lie down and rest awhile. Opening his grip and taking out his bootjack, he removed his No. 11s and the girls made him comfortable on the sofa. Then hid away from callers for a time. Mame, a friend of the girls came in and wondered at their absence, but took up a magazine to read until they came back, just then Mrs. Nodie another neighbor arrived and the two ladies met and during the conversation Mame sent the old lady away with the impression that the inmates of the house were suffering from a contagious disease. Mame then flopped herself down on the sofa, alighting on Uncle Epp's knees.

Continued on second page.

## A VISIT TO OUR SCHOOLS

### Good and Efficient Work Being Done by the Various Instructors in This City

If you have any love for the rising generation, or even if you have just a simple liking for our bright, happy boys and girls—and God pity you if you have not—we do not know how you can spend a half day with greater pleasure and enjoyment than to visit successively the different rooms of either of our excellent schools. We put in all the spare time we had Monday in the grammar school on Jersey between John and Cleariston streets.

The room we first visited was that of Miss Lick, who "wields the birch" as they used to say, but there is no birch nor any other kind of instrument of torture there, and we believe better order prevailed than in any school room we ever studied in, where the ferrule and birch were every day companions of some of the boys and girls of that day. Miss Lick has charge of the First A, and it was story telling time with them. We swapped stories with the little ones for a few moments and then passed into the room occupied by Miss M. Haley and the 2A-1st grade. These future millionaires and presidents were studying their spelling and spelling lessons and it was interesting to note the keenness with which they watched each other for an error and the eagerness of the pupil to secure an opportunity to make the correction.

After lunch, some of the primary grades were dismissed before we could return to school and we did not get to see them. The first room we visited was that of Miss C. Haley, who handles the 4B-2 and 5A-1 grades. This is a bright bunch of young people and are making a most excellent showing. It was spelling time with them also, and there was a wonderful difference in the method used than when we used to spell down in the old log school house. Then we simply learned that a certain word was spelled just in a certain way and that another word was spelled another way, but we never knew any reason why it was, just simply because the teacher and the book said so. Now a word is spelled and the reasons are given for spelling it that way. The root word is given then the derivatives or prefixes or suffixes are given and the reason is given why the consonant ending of the root word is doubled in some instances and not in others. So that when the pupil advances from these grades to the higher, he will possess a more profound knowledge so far as he has advanced than the teacher of the highschools possessed when we went to school.

Mrs. Couvert, who is giving instructions in music and had been through with her work for the day, very kindly demonstrated her method of teaching for our benefit with Miss Haley's pupils. She was beginning with the rudiments of music and using the same general inductive method that prevails throughout the other studies, building from the bottom up, mastering every technical feature as the pupil advances. To read music and read it readily, is one of the most delightful accomplishments of the man or woman of today, and there is no reason on earth why it should not be one of the regular studies of the common school, except that the people have not been educated up to that advanced idea of education; but we are coming to it and the work of Mrs. Couvert is hastening the day when the study will be regularly established in the schools of St. Johns.

In Miss Brown's room, the 5A-2 and B1, we found the pupils laboring with their spelling of words in the subjunctive form and giving the rules governing the same. It is pretty hard for some of the little ones, but as noted already when once mastered a more comprehensive knowledge and use of the language is attained than was possible in the old days.

In Miss Bailey's room, where we found the 5th A and B grades, the work was done for the day and the pupils were engaged in reviewing some of their work gone over before in order to fix it more firmly in their minds. Some of their subjects in water colors and with the ordinary pencils handled in a manner that a master would not be ashamed of. In Miss Beebe's room is located the 6th grade pupils, a bright bunch who were suffering the same affliction as their fellow-spelling—and they seemed to enjoy it thoroughly, were happy as birds in a tree. It seems to us we were unfortunate in the hour of our visit as the heavier studies are heard during the morning hours when the

young minds are fresher and more vigorous and there would have been a greater variety of work in progress during those hours. Another time we will "go to bed with the chickens" and "get up with the birds" so as to be able to "go to school with the kids".

We next visited Miss Burghdoff's room where we found the 7A and B grades. This is certainly one of the brightest and best of the entire school if there can be any difference. Some of the finest work with the pencils and brushes we have ever seen done by amateurs may be seen on the walls of the schoolroom, sketches as good as you will find anywhere. Miss Burghdoff has charge of the drawing this year, is an enthusiastic instructor and seems to impart a great measure of her enthusiasm to her pupils, who seem to make as much progress in their other studies as in that of the limner's art. The pupils were reciting their physiology lesson when we entered and the subject under discussion was "dress". Not the styles, particularly, for they do not teach dressmaking, but the relationship of dress to good health and the conclusions reached by the pupils would condemn many things which obtain in the styles of modern fashion. Incidentally other points were brought out, such as the supply of fresh air in the sleeping room, the definition of a cold, the causes of a cold, but they did not reach the remedy, which will presumably come up in a future lesson. It appears to us that such practical instruction constantly given during the impressionable days of our youth will tell in time to the strengthening and betterment of our people. Referring again to the sketches made by the children in their drawing studies we suggested to both the instructors and our genial Superintendent, Mr. Boyd that the finest of them should be sent to the Journal for publication as they will compare favorably with the best that have been reproduced in their Sunday issue.

The care of the pupils at the school is in keeping with the instructions of the text books and teachers. The rooms are well aired, kept scrupulously clean, and during the recent Thanksgiving holiday all the rooms were thoroughly fumigated. So thoroughly, that the windowgardens were denuded of their greenery, the fumes of the disinfectant killing it.

We are very sorry that it was so that we could not visit every room in the school and we will endeavor to repeat the visit later if the opportunity ever presents itself, for it is certainly a great pleasure to us to observe the young people preparing themselves for the battle of life, knowing that this battle will become more strenuous as the years go by and the only way our young people will be able to meet the demands of the times in which their active lives will be spent will be for them to lay a broader and better foundation than their fathers and mothers did before them.

Continued on fourth page.

### THREE NIGHTS OF FUN

#### Knights and Pythian Sisters Great Artists

There were more than three knights and the fun was big, bigger and bigger. A good sized audience greeted the burnt cork artists Tuesday evening and there was almost as much fun listening to the guessing the identity of the artists as there was in listening to their jokes. There were very few jokes with whiskers on them, although once in a while they would creep in.

The boys were handicapped very badly because one or two of the bunch were sick in bed and it made it very hard work for the others to fill the parts. Two numbers they were obliged to omit entirely because of the absence of the leading member in the numbers, Hon. K. C. Couch. But even with their handicap the boys did well and received hearty accolades from the audience.

It is hard to distinguish between the merits of the different performers. Frank Horsman, Joe Black and the end man who played the bones and danced "Turkey in the Straw" who remained in good so far as we were concerned, as well as E. B. Holcomb who sang "Old Black Joe" did exceedingly well. We mention the last one, that Brother Holcomb may not lose any of the glory that is due him. A number of the audience have come to us and congratulated us upon the way we congratulated that song, mistaking the identity of the performer. We hardly know whether we owe Brother Holcomb an apology, or he us, but we wish him to have all the glory of the excellent rendering of the song, hence the explanation.

Were you at the Pythian Sisters' saucoville? Well, if you were not you missed the best thing that has ever come to St. Johns. It was one continual round of pleasure. Laugh succeeded laugh so quickly that the first would not get out at the door until the following one would start from the stage. The acting was perfectly rural, the situation so exultatingly funny they moved us to tears, and easily placed the entertainment at the head of anything that has yet come to St. Johns.

In the opening farce the lady of the house was suffering from a sprained ankle and an insurance agent came along and endeavored to insure her life. In the meantime the lady's husband, who was jealous of her, was expected every minute, which caused the lady more pain than the sprained ankle. The agent, however, finally succeeded in persuading the lady to fill out the application for a policy and the questions and answers keep the house in a roar. Then the ice man began a furious knocking and the lady went wild thinking it was her husband, and there seemed no way out of the house except at the door where he was. The good lady finally hit upon the expedient of dressing the agent up in a whitewasher's uniform and